



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING FOUNDATION

ENDOWMENT & FACILITIES REPORT



The University of Wyoming is dedicated to ensuring that its students have what they need to become successful in their lives and careers. Your enthusiasm and generosity are invaluable contributions, for which we thank you deeply, and together we achieve UW's missions in education, research, and service.

In FY 2015, private giving totaled \$46.1 million, bringing the five-year fundraising average to \$47.1 million. Because of your support, there are now more than 1,300 endowments that support students, faculty, colleges, and programs across campus and beyond.

Key gifts this year include the following:

- Hess Corporation for facilities, research, and technology
- Marian H. Rochelle for facilities and technology
- Raymond D. Kennedy for scholarships
- Patrick and Nancy Higgins for facilities
- Richard and Judith Agee for facilities
- Tony S. Cercy and family for facilities
- Wolf Creek Charitable Foundation for biodiversity

Without the generosity of our donors, UW just wouldn't be as successful. Our public-private partnership ensures that Wyoming's university has the resources to achieve excellence. We do our best to honor the trust you place in us, and we are more dedicated than ever to raising private support for UW while also strengthening the university through prudent investment and financial management.

Your individual fund reports are enclosed. If you have questions regarding the attached financial information, please contact Mary Ann Garman, Vice President for Financial Services, at (307) 766-3939 or email to mag@uwyo.edu or Ben Blalock, UW Foundation President/CEO, at (307) 766-3948 or email to bblalock@uwyo.edu. We offer our sincerest thanks for your generous support.

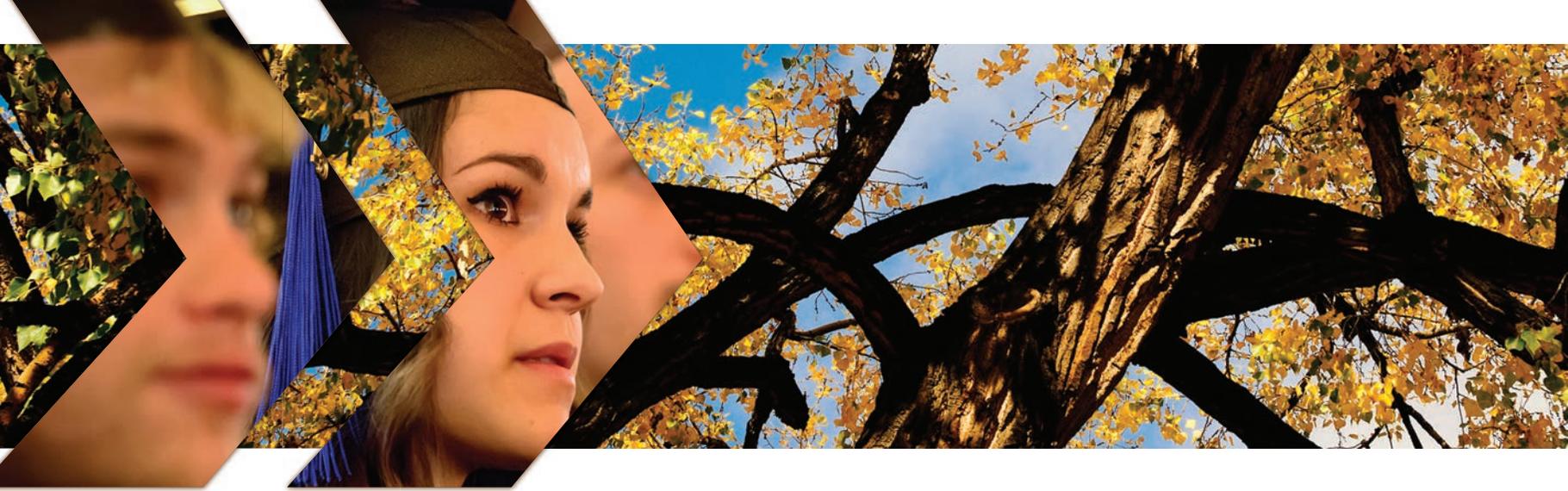


SCOTT NEU
*Chair of the Board
UW Foundation
Board of Directors*



BEN BLALOCK
*President/CEO
UW Foundation*

THANK YOU



THE
RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN UW,
THE STATE,
AND PRIVATE
DONORS
ENSURES THE
SUCCESS OF
STUDENTS
NOW AND IN
THE FUTURE

CONTINUOUS SUCCESS

The fiscal year 2015 has been a success for the UW Foundation and the University of Wyoming. Because of you—our dedicated and enthusiastic supporters—we raised an amazing \$46.1 million. This total from 22,896 individuals, corporations, and foundations brings the five-year fundraising average to \$47.1 million a year.

The year 2015 was a celebration year for many entities on campus. The University of Wyoming Alumni Association celebrated 120 years of service. On March 26, 1895, eight UW graduates gathered to organize the University of Wyoming Alumni Association. They planned to “promote the university interests and the affiliation of its graduates.” Since then, the association has served UW by keeping alumni connected to the university, helping alumni get good jobs, and providing scholarships to deserving students. Today, there are more than 110,000 alumni worldwide.

The UW Summer High School Institute celebrated its 30th anniversary. The Wyoming Legislature established the program in 1985 as a way to provide enrichment and education for promising students throughout Wyoming and to experience the benefits of attending college. In June 1985, a group of students who had just completed their sophomore year in high school arrived at the University of Wyoming for a three-week educational experience to expose them to college life. They were the first class selected to attend the UW Summer High School Institute. Since then, nearly 3,000 students from throughout Wyoming have attended the annual High School Institute.

The latest UW Student Satisfaction Survey (UWSSS) was administered in 2014, but the

results weren’t publicized until January 2015. Highlights include the following.

- The percentage of students who are pleased with their UW education was 94 percent, a number that has held relatively constant since 2004.
- Seventy-nine percent of students rated the quality of UW instruction as excellent, up from 77 percent in 2012.
- Eighty-one percent of students report that faculty members are available to meet with them after class with regular office hours, a number that also has been relatively constant since 1998.
- The percentage of students who believe the campus is safe and secure was 87 percent—up from 84 percent in 2012 and significantly higher than the national average.
- Eighty-two percent of students were satisfied with UW’s classroom facilities, 70 percent with laboratory facilities, and 92 percent with library facilities and services—all percentages that were significantly higher than national averages.
- The percentage of students satisfied with computer services was 84 percent, while satisfaction with computer labs was 85 percent—numbers that also were significantly higher than national averages.
- The percentage of students who expressed satisfaction at the availability of financial aid was 66 percent—the same number as 2010 and 2012 but up from 58 percent in 2006. (The Hathaway Scholarship Program was initiated in 2006.)
- Seventy-three percent of students described their tuition as a worthwhile investment, the same number as 2012.



A national teaching careers website, Teach Tomorrow, ranked the University of Wyoming among the nation's top online master's degree programs in education. Teach Tomorrow ranked UW 26th among four-year degree granting institutions, based on tuition costs, academic and career counseling services, job placement services for graduates, and a cost/quality metric.

The University of Wyoming Geological Museum was ranked 12th on a list of the 50 Most Amazing College Museums released by CollegeRank.net. The list was compiled after an exhaustive survey of public data on every college and university museum in the country. Among factors considered were public access; past, current, and planned exhibits; architecture; history; and campus integration and support. The UW museum is described as "a hotbed of paleontology," and "individual and family visitors will be struck by the unique dinosaur fossils on display here."

In addition to these rankings, UW faculty have also made an impact and won awards for their research and outstanding instruction. Here are just a few examples of the amazing and groundbreaking achievements that UW faculty members have made in 2015.

- Professor Paul Flesher of the University of Wyoming's Department of Religious Studies received the Seymour Gitin Distinguished Professorship award that includes funding for a four-and-a-half-month residency in Jerusalem in spring 2016.
- Professor Scott Miller and Assistant Professor Dan Levy won outstanding research and early career research awards from the Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station. Miller is in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, and Levy is in the Department of Molecular Biology.
- Professor Farhad Jafari, the department head of Mathematics since 2009, won the George Duke Humphrey Distinguished Faculty Award, which recognizes a faculty member "who, in addition to acclaim as a teacher, has achieved distinction as a scholar in research or other creative activity, and who has given distinguished service to the university."
- Professor Bruce Parkinson was recognized internationally as a leading researcher in harnessing solar energy and has been selected to receive an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Research Award. The award promotes international cultural

dialogue and academic exchange and recognizes academics whose fundamental discoveries, new theories, or insights have had a significant impact on their own disciplines and who are expected to continue producing cutting-edge achievements in the future. The Humboldt Award recognizes Parkinson's entire achievements to date.

Students have also been making an impact and winning awards.

The University of Wyoming Army ROTC received the 2013-14 Cochise Award for the Best Small Unit in the 5th Brigade, which covers the region from Wyoming to Texas and Arizona to Arkansas. The 5th Brigade consists of 36 host schools and more than 20 smaller or satellite schools. The UW Cowboy Battalion was selected for the honor based, in part, on the quantity and quality of commissioned officers the program produces. In 2014, the UW Army ROTC commissioned 19 second lieutenants. In 2015, the program is poised to commission 23—a number that is 153 percent above mission requirements.

The UW meat judging team had a member earn the highest score ever in a University of Wyoming meat judging competition, and the team captured reserve champion honors and third place in its first two competitions. Blake Ochsner of Torrington earned the highest individual score in UW history while placing third in individual honors and finishing in the top five in five divisions at the show.

Four University of Wyoming College of Business students helped Kennon Products of Sheridan win the 2015 Better Business Bureau Torch Award for Ethics. Students who contributed to Kennon Products's award were Christine Bessert, an accounting and agricultural business major from Casper, Wyoming; Stephanie Domenico, an accounting student from Denver, Colorado; Jason Mitchell, a business administration major from Fort Collins, Colorado; and Cheyenne's Mark Radich, a business administration and physiology student.

Your generosity helped students achieve their dreams and faculty expand their research. Your contributions kept Wyoming connected with the rest of the world. Your support was instrumental in the success of this generation and future generations to come. We can't thank you enough for all that you do.



ENDOWMENTS
CREATE A
STEADY AND
PREDICTABLE
STREAM OF
INCOME AND
ALLOW THE
UNIVERSITY
TO EXCEL

ENDOWMENT PERFORMANCE

Donors like you allow Wyoming's university to excel to new heights and give the students the skills they need to be successful. Your support ensures the future of the University of Wyoming and its students, faculty, programs, and facilities—and we can't thank you enough. Thanks are also due to Wyoming's Governor and State Legislature for their steadfast support of the future of Wyoming.

Endowments are vital because they provide a steady and predictable stream of income over and above the baseline of support from the Wyoming Legislature. They allow the university to budget from one year to the next with funds it can count on, and they support students with important scholarships. Also vital are major gifts for facilities so that the university can replace aging buildings with state-of-the-art facilities and technology—this propels our students to the front of the line and allows us to compete with the nation's top universities in research and educational excellence.

Endowments allow the University of Wyoming to balance the amount of money coming in against projected expenses. We rely on this type of budgeting to ensure the success of the university and its students. Endowments provide a firm foundation of assets that are held in perpetuity, the interest of which creates a steady stream of funding for those purposes chosen by the donor. This steady stream allows the university to budget reliably for the coming year and to balance the amount of money coming in against projected expenses. Endowments are conduits that allow yesterday's students to impact the lives of students today and tomorrow.

When a donor creates an endowed fund, the gift buys shares—much like mutual funds—in the endowment pool. Adding these funds to the endowment pool broadens investment possibilities much more than if each endowment were invested individually. Accounting, however, is done separately for each fund, and based upon the number of shares owned in the pool, income is distributed after an initial one-year waiting period. Endowment distributions may be made from current income, accumulated income, realized appreciation, and principal to the extent necessary to meet the distribution requirements of the payout policy. Earnings above the amount of distributions are added to the corpus, enabling the principal to continue to grow and providing a hedge against inflation.

Then, every year, in accordance with its payout policy, the UW Foundation distributes millions of dollars from endowments to the university for expenditures such as student assistance, faculty support, library acquisitions, academic program support, facilities, and building and equipment purchases and maintenance.

The UW Foundation uses a weighted formula for calculating payout amounts. The payout policy is the result of a careful review of models used by Yale, Stanford, and other major higher education institutions and is designed to smooth year-to-year variations in market performance so that the colleges and units within the university are able to budget more accurately with a predictable and reliable source of funding.

There are now 1,358 University of Wyoming endowments, and the pooled fund had grown to \$434 million as of December 31, 2015.

THE UW
FOUNDATION
CONTINUES
HELPING
DONORS
ACHIEVE THEIR
PHILANTHROPIC
GOALS AND
SUPPORTING
WYOMING'S
UNIVERSITY

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

Under the management of the foundation, the university endowment has grown significantly over the years, allowing donors to support an expanding number of students, faculty, and academic programs during times when many universities have had to cut back. Thank you for believing in our shared future and supporting it with your contributions.

The bottom line, however, is only part of the story—the UW Foundation provides services that go far beyond numbers on a page. We help people achieve their philanthropic goals and provide services such as estate planning. We facilitate and manage gifts at all stages in the process—we actively steward donors' contributions before they become endowments (including pledges, short-term investments, and real estate), and after the fact we make sure endowments are directed according to donors' wishes. We also connect alumni and friends of Wyoming with their university.

In its investment strategy, the UW Foundation seeks to achieve a balance between current requirements and future needs—to provide a stable and growing income stream to the University of Wyoming while preserving the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Funds invested by the foundation include cash, reserve balances, charitable remainder unitrusts and gift annuities, outright gifts, and endowments.

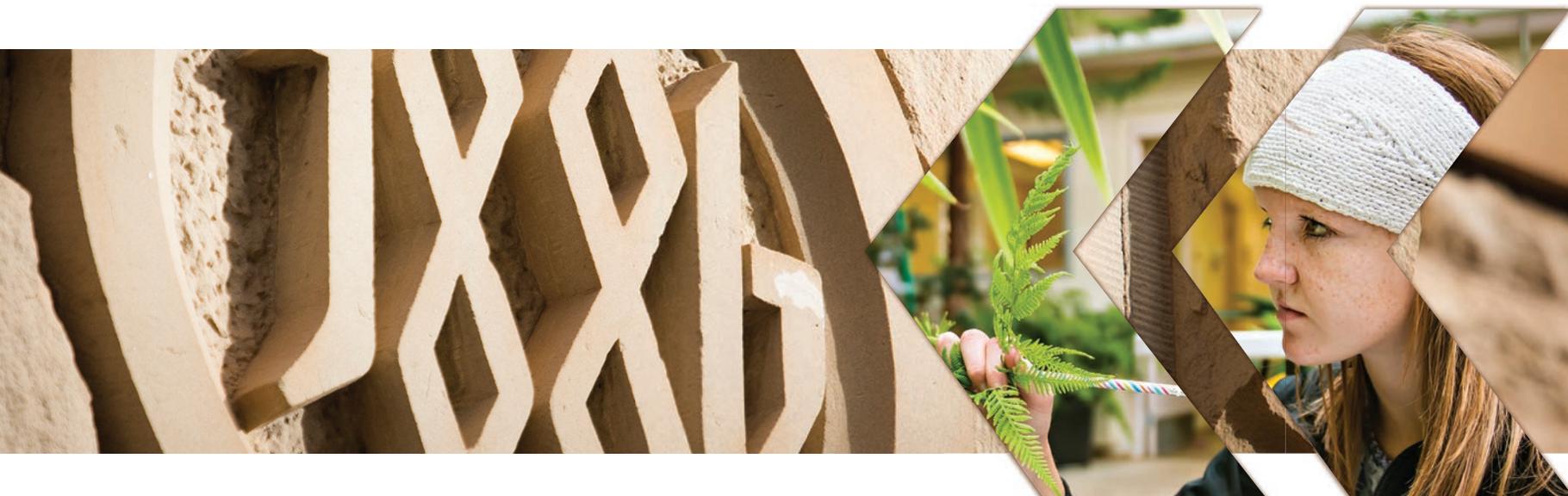
The UW Foundation Board of Directors—in consultation with their professional investment advisors—worked diligently during fiscal year 2015 to proactively manage the foundation's portfolio. The UW Foundation staff and Board of Directors Investment Committee is responsible for determining the investment policy and selecting investment managers for the endowment pool. They combine diverse areas of expertise to bring a wealth of financial experience to the management of the foundation's investments.

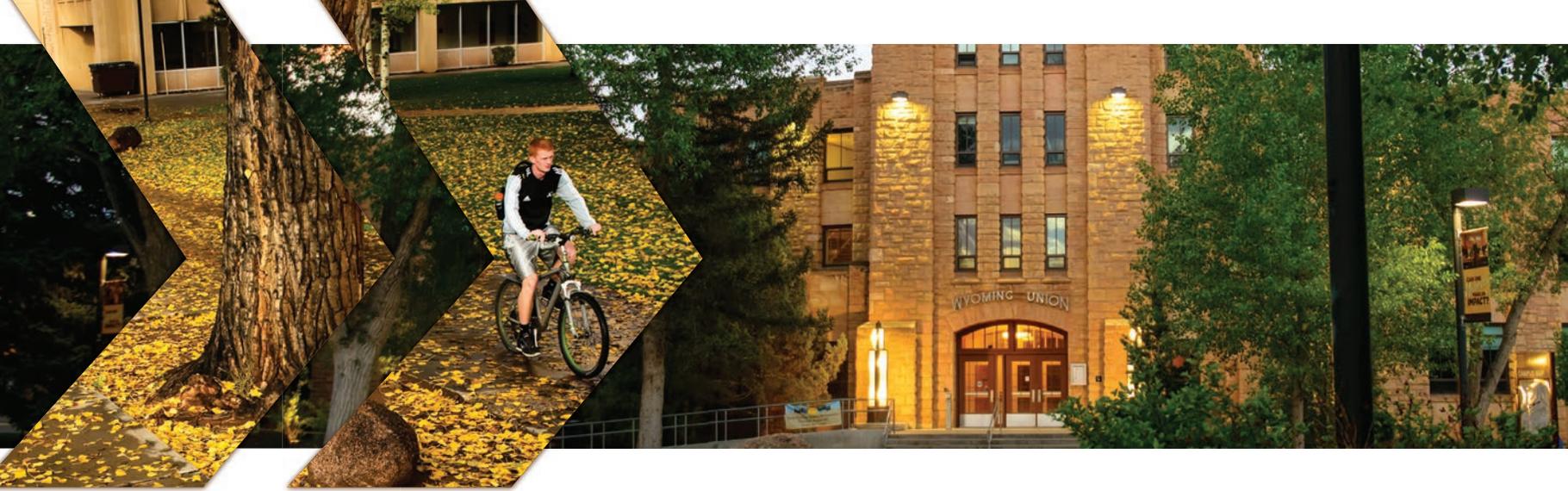
The Foundation Board recently changed to the investment consulting firm of Meketa Investment Group from Boston, Massachusetts. Having professional investment managers helps ensure investment management remains consistent, despite periodic changes in foundation personnel and UW Foundation Board composition.

The UW Foundation uses a sophisticated asset allocation, which has resulted in more secure foundation holdings that are not unduly influenced by the highs and lows of the equity and bond markets or changes in the political climate. The board proactively manages the assets to balance stability with rate of return, and the foundation portfolio is fully diversified. The risk, return, and correlation characteristics of the alternative asset classes provide greater portfolio diversification and stability because of their low correlations to the traditional fixed income and equity asset classes. Now more than ever, well-balanced asset allocations have been shown consistently to outperform over time under varying market conditions—rather than heavily investing in one or two asset classes or trying to time the market.

Currently, the pooled permanent funds are invested across a broad range of asset classes in 70 funds among 48 different managers. With the input of the investment consulting firm, the board hires investment managers whose portfolios fit within the foundation's investment strategy of long-term growth and minimizing risk versus reward. Target allocations and investment managers are reviewed at least quarterly to ensure objectives are being met, and assets are rebalanced to keep them in line with the target ranges for each asset class.

As of December 31, 2015, the pool of endowed funds totaled \$434 million.

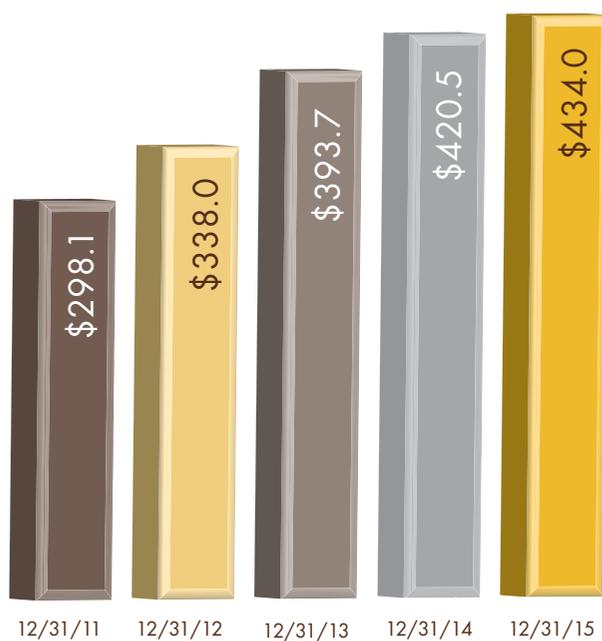




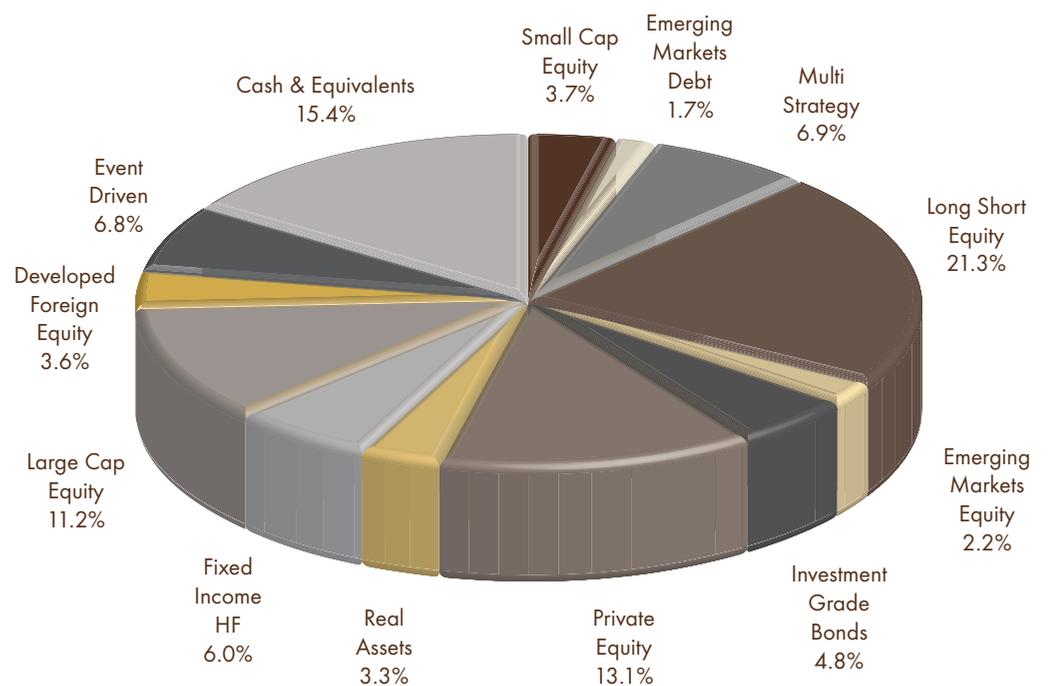
	Latest Quarter	One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years
NET TOTAL FUND PERFORMANCE					
Total Fund	1.9	0.7	6.9	6.7	5.4
S&P 500	7.0	1.4	15.1	12.6	7.3
Barclays US Aggregate	2.8	-1.0	5.3	5.2	5.0
MSCI Emerging Markets	0.7	-14.9	-6.8	-4.8	3.6
Policy Index ⁽¹⁾	1.7	2.2	6.3	4.9	4.1

⁽¹⁾ Policy index as of 3q10: 10% S&P 500, 10% Barclays US Aggregate, 5% Russell 2000, 10% EAFE, 17.5% HFRX Hedged, 22.5% HFRX AR. Policy index previous to 3q10: 20% S&P 500, 10% Barclays US Aggregate, 10% Russell 2000, 15% EAFE, 10% HFRX Hedged, 15% HFRX AR.

PORTFOLIO GROWTH IN MILLIONS



ASSET ALLOCATION



FACULTY SUPPORT

THE SPICER CHAIR WAS CREATED TO LINK TEACHING, OUTREACH, AND RESEARCH IN COLLABORATIVE PROCESSES

Dr. Steve Smutko is the University of Wyoming's Eldon and Beverly Spicer Chair in Collaborative Practice. He advances leadership, training, and scholarship in natural resource collaborative decision making in Wyoming.

"My goal is to enhance the collaborative capacity of the people in Wyoming and the West," says Smutko. "We're doing that on a number of different fronts."

He accomplishes this in part by training the next generation of resource managers through undergraduate and graduate problem solving and negotiation analysis courses, including classes that now make up a core requirement for the environment and natural resources undergraduate curriculum.

"[Chairs] are often created around a need that is difficult to fill otherwise, so it says, 'This is important,'" says Smutko. "It fills an important niche, number one, and number two, it provides some academic freedom to really explore and expand what I do in ways that I probably wouldn't have an opportunity to do in any other institution."

Beverly Spicer of Rock Springs endowed the Spicer Chair in memory of her husband Eldon, who advocated for stakeholder involvement and consensus building to resolve land use issues. The Spicer Chair, created to link teaching, outreach, and research in collaborative processes, is housed in the Ruckelshaus Institute, a unit of the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Wyoming. As the Spicer Chair, Smutko has facilitated a number of natural resource science and policy decision-making processes in Wyoming.

In 2014, Smutko convened the Wyoming Task Force on Forests at the request of Governor Matt Mead. The nineteen-member task force met five times to craft recommendations the state could use to improve forest conditions. That work continued in 2015 when the state funded several of the recommendations, including a Forest Collaborative Assistance Program to kick-start

collaborative problem-solving processes for forest issues in Wyoming communities.

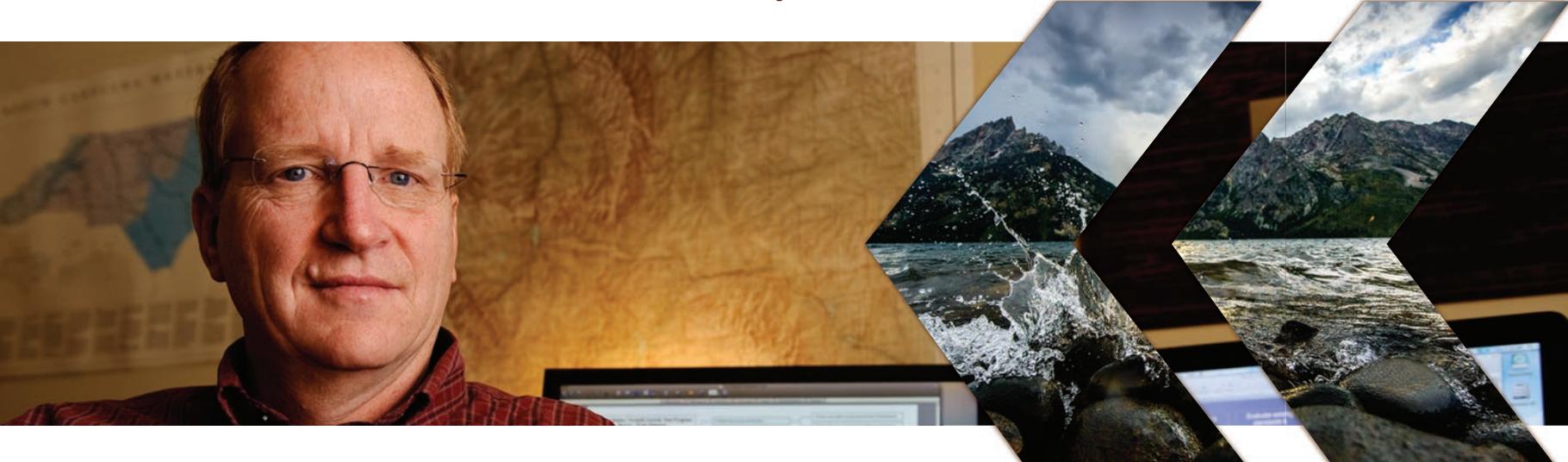
Smutko also assisted the U.S. Forest Service in engaging local residents in management decisions to reduce hazardous fuel loading and to improve wildlife habitat in Teton Canyon, part of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest.

In spring 2014, the eleven federal land management agencies comprising the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee invited Dr. Smutko to organize a series of community conversations to help them leverage public-private partnerships for meeting conservation goals in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

Throughout 2015, he worked on a potentially precedent-setting project to assist water users in Laramie County, Wyoming, as they set water use reduction goals and water appropriation methods in the overstressed High Plains Aquifer system.

Through his position as the Spicer Chair, Smutko has trained Wyoming citizens to collaborate and solve complex and contentious natural resource problems. He oversees the Collaboration Program in Natural Resources, a yearlong series of professional development workshops where mid-career professionals gain collaborative decision-making skills through trainings and a practicum. In addition, Smutko and his colleagues hosted the Wyoming Collaboration Conference in Casper. Registrants heard from national collaboration scholars, as well as from local natural resource managers engaged in collaborative problem solving.

"Because the university set this position up in such a way that it is very much applied, we get involved in issues that are really important to the state of Wyoming," explains Smutko. "My involvement in those projects highlights the university's role in things that are important to the state of Wyoming—to the people of Wyoming."





Diversity is very much on the mind of the nation, and the University of Wyoming is doing its part to ensure the success of all students, no matter their backgrounds.

We have help. In 1988, the William Randolph Hearst Foundation partnered with UW in support of the success of minority students. It established an endowed fund, the Hearst Scholars Award, which became UW's first established scholarship aimed at increasing the recruitment and retention of new ethnic minority students. The Hearst Scholars Award supports full-time minority freshmen and transfer students. The Hearst Foundation has continued its support with additional funds in 1997 and 2010.

Hearst Scholars have lots of support. They come together at the beginning of each academic year, and they are required to be actively involved on campus. They meet with a Multicultural Affairs staff member throughout the year for academic and personal support. They may also partner with a faculty mentor or attend seminars to develop effective life and university skills.

As the only land-grant institution in Wyoming, UW must have a strong commitment to diversity, according to UW President Dick McGinity. It must be embedded in our DNA and supported throughout our institution. While there are many such efforts underway to address issues of diversity throughout the university, it has become increasingly clear that in order for these efforts to have their greatest effect, they must be coordinated, and they must be part of a strong institutional commitment that will be long lasting and enduring.

"If we are going to recruit and retain the best students, staff, and faculty, if we are going to be competitive as an institution in an increasingly global and diverse world, and if we are going

to graduate students who are prepared to lead, to demonstrate cultural competency and to be successful in the world, then we can and must do more," President McGinity says.

A committee of stakeholders from UW and throughout Wyoming has been appointed to develop a plan to strengthen UW's commitment to diversity—the UW Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement Plan will include both short-term and long-term goals, objectives, action steps, resources needed to effectuate the plan, a timeline for communication and implementation, and a robust means for measuring and assessing progress. In conjunction with these efforts, the university is implementing a Coordinator of Diversity position who reports directly to the president.

The Hearst Scholars Award is having a huge impact on the success of these students. UW tracks first-time full-time freshman entering UW in the summer or fall through to graduation and has implemented numerous programs to support these students. UW has a freshman retention rate of 75% and a 6-year graduation rate of 54%. The national average freshman retention rate for public postsecondary institutions is 60%, and the average 6-year graduation rate is 58%.

The retention and graduation rates of minority students fall below those of the general student population—a 74% retention rate and a 39% six-year graduation rate. However, Hearst Scholars have an amazing retention rate of 87%. Seventy-five percent of students who are part of the Hearst Scholars program graduate in just four years in the program. There are 19 Hearst Scholars in the 2015-16 academic year.

The Hearst Scholars Award program is clearly making a huge impact on minority students.

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIPS

THE WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST FOUNDATION HAS BEEN SUPPORTING UW MINORITY STUDENTS OVER THE COURSE OF ALMOST 30 YEARS

THE MIKE VOLPI
AND TONI CUPAL
ELECTRICAL
ENGINEERING
SENIOR DESIGN
FUNDS CREATE
REAL-WORLD
EXPERIENCES
FOR STUDENTS

STUDENT PROJECT SUPPORT

The Mike Volpi and Toni Cupal Electrical Engineering Senior Design Fund helped Karolyn Hopfensperger finish her senior design project and gave her real-world experience.

“Just having that money available was sort of a safety net for decision making,” says Karolyn. “It also helped me keep track of costs because in a real-world engineering situation, budget is a huge impact on an engineer’s decision to go one way over another. Just having that money available is a real-world engineering experience.”

Originally from Cheyenne, Karolyn was a senior in electrical engineering who graduated in December 2015. She came to the University of Wyoming to be close to home but also because the program was small and she knew she would get individualized attention. Being granted a UW Trustees scholarship also made it possible for her to attend school with very little cost.

Her senior design project was creating a new math counts timing system for the state math counts competition. According to Karolyn, this competition is set up like a game show, and the timing system has to count down the time and allow the finalists to buzz in to give their answers to questions. There are lights that indicate which finalist buzzed in, and when they hit their buzzer, the clock stops, allowing them time to answer.

Currently, a system already exists, so it was Karolyn’s job to figure out how to make it better. The new system she created is more reliable, responds faster, and is easier to carry. Her design has four controllers that run the LED indicator lights, the buzzers, and the timer. The panel operator also has the ability to reset the timer or allow it to continue counting down if the student gives an incorrect answer.

Karolyn decided to work on this project after a professor came to her senior design class. She had the opportunity to create her own project or to work on one that already existed. She explains that working on an existing project was an advantage and a challenge.

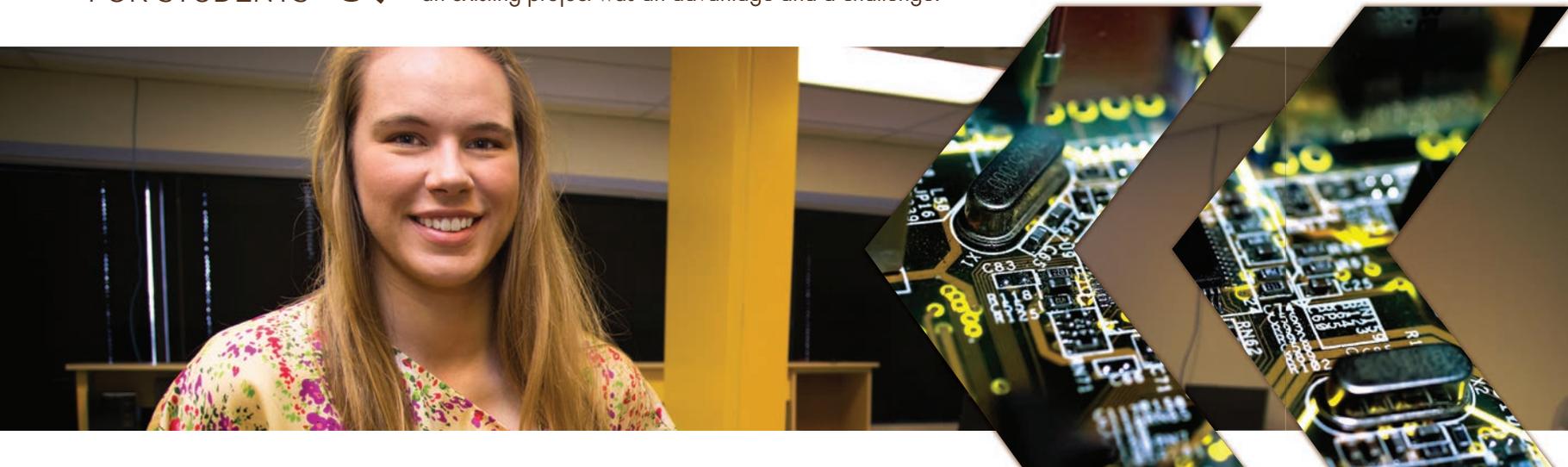
“I challenged myself to think like a 12 year old—what would they enjoy?” says Karolyn. “The buzzers are really, really loud—almost to the point of being obnoxious—and the LED indicator lights are red. The LED display is bright red. That was my favorite part—just when something would finally work. Oh, it’s so beautiful, it looks so nice.”

The appealing part of the project for her was that her design has real-world use. It was encouraging to know that someone might actually use her design after she leaves the university and moves on to other things.

Senior Design is a required capstone course for all engineering and computer science students. The college’s accreditation agency ABET requires that “Students must be prepared for engineering practice through a curriculum culminating in a major design experience based on the knowledge and skills acquired in earlier coursework and incorporating appropriate engineering standards and multiple realistic constraints.”

The Mike Volpi and Toni Cupal Electrical Engineering Senior Design Fund was established in 2000 to enhance the senior design experience in Electrical Engineering, such as the purchase of components and equipment to support students in the senior design sequence. The fund provides support for each senior design project, and it was established in honor of Professor Jerry Cupal (Toni’s father), who is now an emeritus professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering department.

The fund encourages interdisciplinary team projects, offers and/or supports business courses for senior design students, supports student trips to visit engineering companies to learn about design and manufacture, and offers prizes or awards for best projects or best presentations.





SUPPORTING
UW SINCE
1969, ALUM
MEL COX
CREATED
TWO FUNDS
THAT SUPPORT
EXCELLENCE
IN THE ARTS,
WHICH HELPED
LAUNCH TWO
SUCCESSFUL
PROGRAMS

SUPPORTING THE ARTS

Alum Mel Cox loves the Arts. “People become engaged with the Arts,” Mel says. “It shows that everybody has the same feelings, the same things happen to them in life. They feel *I’m not really alone here*. Whatever’s happening to you, it’s okay. It’s universal. All people are the same.”

A corporate lawyer and philanthropist, Mel has been supporting the University of Wyoming since 1969—the year he graduated with his bachelor’s in political science. He went on to graduate from Harvard Law and practice for 40 years, serving as General Counsel at Sun Chemical.

His gifts have gone to a number of programs, but two are especially close to his heart, and so he created excellence funds to support them. These are creative writing and dance.

The Creative Writing Excellence Fund supports the Creative Writing Program at the University of Wyoming.

“With the generous support of Mel Cox, our Creative Writing Program has risen to the top tier of programs in the national rankings,” says Jeff Lockwood, director of the program. “His funding has allowed us to attract the country’s most talented writing students to UW and to provide them with opportunities to network with the literary community around the nation.”

The Melvin M. Cox Excellence Fund in Theatre and Dance fosters participation in American College Dance and Theatre Festivals, especially regional and national competitions. It also supports the Snowy Range Dance Festival, brings in visiting

speakers and artists, provides travel awards, and enhances recruitment.

“Over the years of Mel’s stewardship, the Snowy Range Summer Dance Festival has provided the highest quality dance experience possible to young dancers in the state of Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain region,” says Marsha Knight, professor of Dance. “Faculty and student experiences at UW would not be the same without Mel’s support—he truly shares our vision.”

Mel is dedicated to those things he believes in. He served on the Arts and Sciences Board of Visitors for four years and on the UW Foundation Board of Directors for eight years. During that time, he only missed one meeting, even as he traveled the world for his job.

“I want to support things which don’t get a lot of support from other donors,” says Mel. “You have a lot of people who give huge amounts for energy and business and engineering—which is terrific—but people who are on a different path—either in English or writing or music or dance or theater or the LGBT community—they struggle to get funding and they do terrific work, even though they may not have a huge budget. I want my money to help them do what they do best.”

“There are times at UW in the Theatre and Dance department when you witness the *incredible*,” says Leigh Selting, head of the Department of Theatre and Dance. “UW has had the amazing opportunity to foster this *incredible* over the years, and we need people to help us do it. At every step of the way for the past 20 years, Mel Cox has been one of those people.”

THE DONATION
OF THE
RIVERBEND
RANCH HELPS
ENSURE THE
FUTURE OF
RANCHING IN
WYOMING

RESEARCH SUPPORT

Livestock and its products contributed \$1.25 billion to the Wyoming economy in 2012. That number might have been higher if not for the wildlife and livestock diseases that impact producers, consumers, and recreationists alike.

Brucellosis is a highly infectious bacterial disease that causes cattle and other livestock to lose their pregnancies, thus affecting already-slim profit margins. Chronic wasting is a degenerative prion disease in deer, elk, and moose that slowly kills all its victims. Bluetongue is a high-mortality disease of ruminants such as sheep that is transmitted by insects. All of these diseases and more are found in Wyoming.

"These diseases pingpong back and forth between livestock and wildlife," say Will Laegreid, head of the UW Department of Veterinary Sciences. "The Wildlife-Livestock Health Center's goal for significant diseases is to eliminate them as an impact."

The Wildlife-Livestock Health Center is a vital research and outreach program within the UW College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Over a half-dozen researchers and numerous graduate students focus on diseases that affect and can be transmitted among large domestic and wild animals such as elk, deer, wild sheep, wild goats, pronghorn, moose, cattle, horses, sheep, and domestic goats.

Center research includes improved modeling, testing, diagnosis, treatment, and vaccine development that helps agricultural producers and land managers strike a balance between costs associated with disease and those associated with disease control.

"We're nationally and internationally known in this field," says College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Frank Galey. "Even though we don't have a veterinary school, we're a go-to place for this kind of research and knowledge in these diseases."

The Wildlife-Livestock Health Center gets significant help in this effort from the public and private support

of the Wyoming Legislature and the Riverbend Ranch Endowment in Wildlife-Livestock Health, among others.

The Riverbend Ranch Endowment supports these efforts in teaching, research, and service related to diseases affecting wildlife and livestock. It supports faculty, graduate students, and undergrads and their research.

This historic ranch was donated by philanthropist Tim Mellon and was sold in 2014. Located 17 miles from Laramie along the Laramie River, Riverbend is just over 6,700 acres. It contains three sets of ranch houses, irrigated cropland, abundant wildlife, prime hunting and fishing habitat, and a private reservoir.

The Riverbend Ranch has a long and storied history. The Sioux, Shoshone, and Teton-Dakotas migrated through the area at various times, until the land was given by the federal government to the railroad. It was sold and broken into ranches, which were passed from one family to another—most notable of which was Oda Mason and his daughter Violet Dinwiddie. In 2005, the land was purchased by Mellon, and more parcels were also added since then.

The \$9.5 million Riverbend Ranch Endowment was created from these funds. This endowment created the Williams Chair, added a third chair to the program, and supports graduate students working in the field, among many other things.

Mellon's very generous gift of the Riverbend Ranch makes a significant impact on our ability to sustain the health of our animal populations, and it will add significant momentum to this research.

"The gift of the Riverbend adds a great deal to an excellent program as we continue to build a critical mass of expertise in these fields of study here," adds Dean Galey.





The UW Foundation was established in 1962 and is appointed by the University Board of Trustees to raise, receive, and manage private gifts to maximize support for the University of Wyoming. It is an independent nonprofit corporation with a Board of Directors.

The UW Foundation Board of Directors consists of up to 30 voting members, six non-voting ex-officio members, and as many voting emeritus members as may be elected by the board. The UW Foundation Board meets throughout the year to guide the foundation in achieving its mission. Board members bring a wealth of experience from a broad spectrum of careers and professional and personal backgrounds.

The University of Wyoming Foundation has been a dynamic partner with the University of Wyoming for more than 50 years. Through the generosity of our many alumni and friends, the UW Foundation raises an average of \$47.1 million a year in private support—money that goes to students and the faculty, staff, and programs that support them. This private support helps to make UW the best educational institution possible.

You can support the University of Wyoming by giving your gift online at www.uwyo.edu/giveonline or contacting the University of Wyoming Foundation at (888) 831-7795 or (307) 766-6300 or by email at foundation@uwyo.edu.



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ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

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VISION

We aspire to be a premier strategic partner with the University of Wyoming in achieving its desire to become the nation's finest land-grant university.

MISSION

We enhance excellence and distinction at the University of Wyoming by securing private resources, delivering superior stewardship, and creating enduring relationship with all who share our pride in Wyoming's university.

CORE VALUES

We aspire to set the highest performance standards in the following areas, which we consider essential to the successful achievement of our mission and attainment of our vision.

- **Accountability:** Faithfully steward the resources entrusted to us while maintaining transparency in all aspects of our management of these resources.
- **Integrity:** Demand the highest standards of professional conduct, acting at all times with truthfulness and integrity and adherence to the Donor Bill of Rights.
- **Quality:** Exceed expectations with exceptional service based on timeliness, accuracy, and responsiveness.
- **Trust:** Nurture high-trust relationships by listening carefully and communicating clearly.



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING FOUNDATION

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